

**PROVIDENCE HOUSING AUTHORITY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Resident Services Committee: Thursday, February 18, 2016; 4:30 p.m.

Hartford Tower

335 Hartford Avenue

Providence, RI 02909

CALL TO ORDER

Jessica Cigna called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Commissioners Present:

Jessica Cigna

PHA Staff present:

Melissa Sanzaro, Deputy Executive Director

Sorrel Devine, Director of Resident Services

Cheryl Tondreau, Associate Director of Resident Services

Excused: Chairperson, Hilary Silver

Staff welcomed Jessica Cigna to the committee and reviewed usual format for committee meeting and reporting to the full board.

Topics:

The following topics were discussed:

- **Grants -**

A proposal for \$48,975 to Citizens Bank for the Citizens Helping Citizens Manage Money was submitted on 1/28/16. If awarded, funds would be used to support of Financial Opportunity Center.

HUD provided directorship with reviewer's feedback on our Jobs Plus Pilot Program proposal during a one hour debriefing on 2/3/16.

- **Health initiatives and Nutrition Services–**

The Food Programs at Carroll Tower, Parenti Villa and Dominica Manor are running smoothly. The RI Food Bank is hosting an 8-week senior cooking and nutrition education program at Parenti Villa starting 2/4/16.

Zumba classes continued at Chad Brown; a graduation was held on February 18th.

- **Education –**

Outreach and Recruitment for the Senior ESL classes have begun.

- **Family Self Sufficiency program –** we discussed the positive outcomes for the FSS program.

- **Special Projects –**

Choice Neighborhood Planning and Action grant application was submitted February 9th.

Health Equity Zone (HEZ) grants: PHA staff worked to distribute and complete 101 surveys for the Recreation Centers Assessment for the City of Providence. The monthly HEZ report was completed for January 2016 and submitted to One Neighborhood Builders.

RI DOT Seatbelt Safety Grant (2015). The Project Coordinator hosted meetings at 8 PHA communities where information regarding seatbelt safety was distributed. Residents in the elderly/disabled high rises were informed that DOT will be conducting workshops in the spring highlighting the importance of Senior Drivers' Safety.

Food on the Move Fresh Produce Trucks continue to visit the PHA's high rises during the first two weeks of the month. Due to increased participation rates, the produce truck is now visiting all sites twice a month. Residents are thrilled!

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned without motion at 5:00 p.m.

Minutes Submitted By:

Cheryl Tondreau
Associate Director of Resident Services

Minutes Approved By:

Jessica Cigna